

NATURA 2000

STANDARD DATA FORM

FOR SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS (SPA)
FOR SITES ELIGIBLE FOR IDENTIFICATION AS SITES OF COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE (SCI)
AND
FOR SPECIAL AREAS OF CONSERVATION (SAC)

1. Site identification:

1.1 Type 1.2 Site code

1.3 Compilation date 1.4 Update

1.5 Relationship with other Natura 2000 sites

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1.6 Respondent(s)

1.7 Site name

1.8 Site indication and designation classification dates

date site proposed as eligible as SCI	
date confirmed as SCI	
date site classified as SPA	199407
date site designated as SAC	

2. Site location:

2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
01 09 38 E	51 57 16 N

2.2 Site area (ha) 2.3 Site length (km)

2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UK54	Essex	28.60%
UK403	Suffolk	71.40%

2.6 Biogeographic region

Alpine

Atlantic

Boreal

Continental

Macaronesia

Mediterranean

3. Ecological information:

3.1 Annex I habitats

Habitat types present on the site and the site assessment for them:

Annex I habitat	% cover	Representativity	Relative surface	Conservation status	Global assessment

3.2 Annex I birds and regularly occurring migratory birds not listed on Annex I

Code	Species name	Population			Site assessment				
		Resident	Breed	Winter	Stage	Population	Conservation	Isolation	Global
A054	<i>Anas acuta</i>			741 I		B		C	
A050	<i>Anas penelope</i>			3979 I		C		C	
A051	<i>Anas strepera</i>			97 I		C		C	
A169	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>			690 I		C		C	
A046a	<i>Branta bernicla bernicla</i>			2627 I		B		C	
A067	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>			213 I		C		C	
A149	<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>			19114 I		B		C	
A143	<i>Calidris canutus</i>			5970 I		C		C	
A137	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>				638 I	B		C	
A137	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			372 I		B		C	
A156	<i>Limosa limosa islandica</i>			2559 I		A		C	
A160	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			2153 I		C		C	
A017	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			232 I		C		C	
A141	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>			3261 I		B		C	
A005	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>			245 I		C		C	
A132	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>		21 P			B		C	
A048	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>			2955 I		B		C	
A162	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			3687 I		B		C	
A162	<i>Tringa totanus</i>				2588 I	B		C	
A142	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			6242 I		C		C	

4. Site description:

4.1 General site character

Habitat classes	% cover
Marine areas. Sea inlets	
Tidal rivers. Estuaries. Mud flats. Sand flats. Lagoons (including saltwork basins)	88.0
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	5.0
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	0.5
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	0.8
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	5.5
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	
Dry grassland. Steppes	
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	
Improved grassland	
Other arable land	
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	0.2
Coniferous woodland	
Evergreen woodland	
Mixed woodland	
Non-forest areas cultivated with woody plants (including orchards, groves, vineyards, dehesas)	
Inland rocks. Scree. Sands. Permanent snow and ice	
Other land (including towns, villages, roads, waste places, mines, industrial sites)	
Total habitat cover	100%

4.1 Other site characteristics

Soil & geology:

Alluvium, Clay, Mud, Neutral, Sand, Shingle

Geomorphology & landscape:

Coastal, Estuary, Intertidal sediments (including sandflat/mudflat), Lagoon, Lowland, Subtidal sediments (including sandbank/mudbank)

4.2 Quality and importance

ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

During the breeding season the area regularly supports:

<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> (Western Europe/Western Mediterranean - breeding)	3.6% of the population in Great Britain 5-year peak mean 1996-2000
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ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

Over winter the area regularly supports:

<i>Anas acuta</i> (North-western Europe)	1.2% of the population 5-year peak mean 1995/96-1999/2000
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<i>Branta bernicla bernicla</i> (Western Siberia/Western Europe)	1.2% of the population 5-year peak mean 1995/96-1999/2000
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<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> (Northern Siberia/Europe/Western Africa)	1.4% of the population 5-year peak mean 1995/96-1999/2000
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<i>Calidris canutus</i> (North-eastern Canada/Greenland/Iceland/North-western Europe)	1.3% of the population 5-year peak mean 1995/96-1999/2000
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<i>Limosa limosa islandica</i> (Iceland - breeding)	7.3% of the population 5-year peak mean 1995/96-1999/2000
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<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> (Eastern Atlantic - wintering)	1.3% of the population 5-year peak mean 1995/96-1999/2000
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<i>Tringa totanus</i> (Eastern Atlantic - wintering)	2.8% of the population 5-year peak mean 1995/96-1999/2000
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On passage the area regularly supports:

<i>Tringa totanus</i> (Eastern Atlantic - wintering)	2% of the population 5-year peak mean 1995/96-1999/2000
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ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC): AN INTERNATIONALLY IMPORTANT ASSEMBLAGE OF BIRDS

Over winter the area regularly supports:

63017 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 19/05/2005)

Including:

Podiceps cristatus , *Phalacrocorax carbo* , *Branta bernicla bernicla* , *Tadorna tadorna* , *Anas penelope* , *Anas strepera* , *Anas acuta* , *Bucephala clangula* , *Charadrius hiaticula* , *Pluvialis squatarola* , *Vanellus vanellus* , *Calidris canutus* , *Calidris alpina alpina* , *Limosa limosa islandica* , *Numenius arquata* , *Tringa totanus* , *Arenaria interpres* .

4.3 Vulnerability

There is pressure for increased port development and marine recreation in this area. Marine recreation is being addressed within the Estuary Management Plan. Port development is being considered by public inquiry. Maintenance dredging of the River Stour and River Orwell poses potential threats to the SPA but the activity is being addressed through the provisions of the Habitats Regulations. The saltmarsh is eroding, partly as a result of natural coastal processes; the beneficial use of dredgings is taking place to try to combat these processes.

5. Site protection status and relation with CORINE biotopes:

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	100.0